



WISCONSIN DNR FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

LAKE: Smoky

COUNTY: Vilas

YEAR: 2015

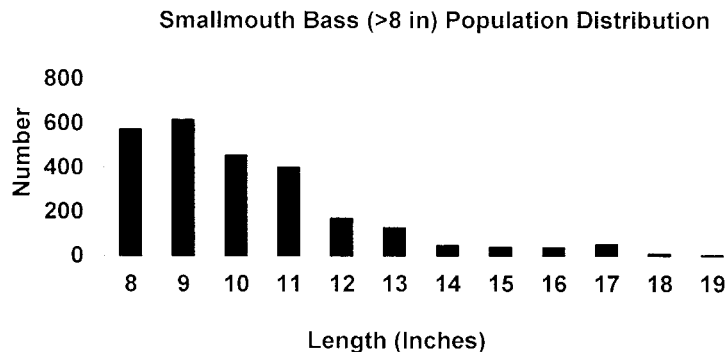
A comprehensive fishery survey was conducted of Smoky Lake, Vilas County, from April 26 through June 4 to determine the health of this fishery. Smoky Lake is an infertile seepage lake with predominantly sand and gravel substrates. It has a surface area of 610 acres, 6 miles of shoreline, and a maximum depth of 60 feet.

Smallmouth Bass

Smallmouth bass are the most common game fish species present in Smoky Lake.

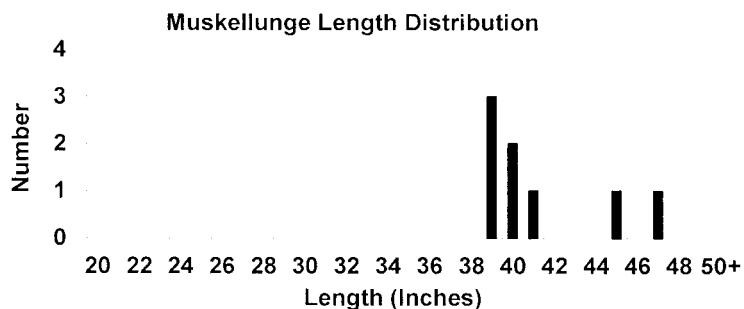
Survey crews captured 698 smallmouth bass during sampling. Sufficient numbers of smallmouth bass were captured to calculate a population estimate. The smallmouth bass population in Smoky Lake (eight inches or larger) was estimated to be 2,517 fish (4.1/acre).

Only 7% of the smallmouth bass in this estimate were 14 inches or greater in length. The largest smallmouth bass captured was 19.1 inches long.



Muskellunge

During the survey eight adult muskellunge were captured and marked (fin clipped). Approximately 63% of the adult muskellunge were greater than 40 inches long or larger. The largest muskellunge captured was a 47.4 inch long female.

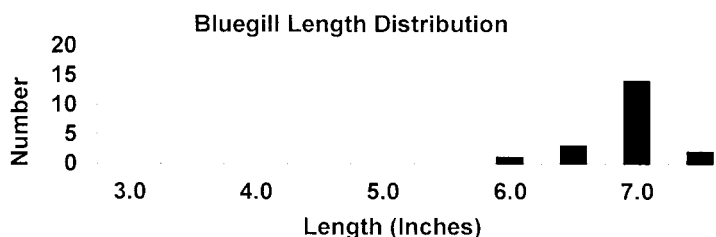


PANFISH

Panfish information presented here was collected from three, 0.5 mile long electrofishing index stations sampled in May. Overall, Smoky Lake has very few panfish and lacks numbers of quality size fish.

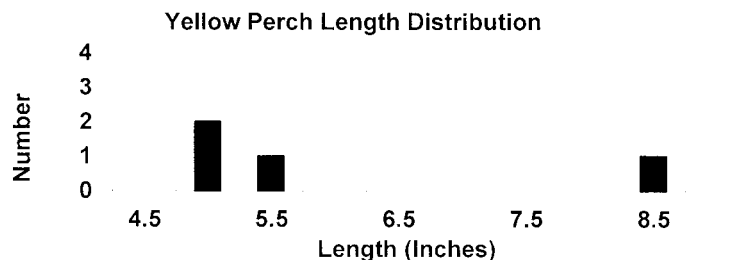
Bluegill

Bluegill are the most abundant panfish species present in Smoky Lake. Few quality size bluegill were captured in this survey. None of the fish from a random sample of 20 measured were greater than eight inches in length. The largest bluegill captured during the survey measured 7.9 inches long.



Yellow Perch

Yellow perch are low in abundance in Smoky Lake. From a random sample of four fish measured, only one was 8.0 inches long or longer. The largest yellow perch captured during the survey was 8.7 inches long.



Other Fish Species

Other fish species captured during this survey but in lower numbers were: bluntnose minnow, mimic shiner, mottled sculpin, rainbow smelt, rock bass, and white sucker.

General Fishing Regulations for Smoky Lake, Vilas County, 2015

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 2 - March 1	3	15"
Smallmouth Bass	May 2 - June 19 June 20 - December 31	0 5 in total w/ LMB	Catch and Release 14 inches
Largemouth Bass	May 2 - December 31	5 in total w/ SMB	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 15 - Nov. 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 2 - March 1	5	No minimum length

The regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations/>

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Smoky Lake, Vilas County, contact:

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